



Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

622 Third Ave New York, NY 10017 www.Iran-UN.org Tel:+1(212)687-2020 Fax:+1(212)867-7086 E-mail: Iran@un.int

In the name of God, the most Compassionate, the most Merciful

No. 104967

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to paragraph 10 of the resolution A/71/145 of 13 December 2016 entitled "Consideration of Effective Measures to Enhance the Protection, Security and Safety of Diplomatic and Consular Missions and Representatives", has the honor to advise the following:

On Friday, 7 September 2018, at 17:00, a large number of Iraqi protesters in the city of Basra gathered in an organized manner in front of the Iranian Consulate-General. Despite the presence of about 50 members of the security forces, about 200 of the protesters assaulted the Consulate-General and made their way inside the building without any intervention by security forces.

By 23:00, the attackers entered the offices and meeting rooms of the Consulate-General and destroyed all property, supplies, equipment and documents. They also dishonored and burned the Iranian flag and eventually the Consulate-General, causing the destruction of the entire building. It is worth noting that repeated calls by the Iranian Consul-General to contact and request local authorities in Basra to dispatch forces went unanswered.

This is despite the fact that the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Baghdad and the Consulate-General in Basra had warned Iraqi Government officials and Basra Province officials, during the day prior and during this horrendous attack, regarding the likelihood of such an invasion and requested that serious measures be taken to avoid an assault on the Consulate-General building.

It is important to note that under international law and relevant international treaties, especially the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations and specifically its paragraph 3 of Article 31, "the receiving State is under a special duty to take all appropriate steps to protect the consular premises against any intrusion or damage and to prevent any disturbance or the peace of the consular post or impairment of its dignity". This obligation by the receiving State is clear and applies, regardless of the intent of the protesters.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while reminding of and emphasizing the international obligations of the Republic of Iraq as the receiving State with regard to ensuring the protection and safety of the Consulate-General's premises, requests that the Government of the Republic of Iraq, in accordance with its international obligations, take all actions and measures



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necessary to ensure the security of the diplomatic and consular premises of the Islamic Republic of Iran as well as the safety of its staff members in Iraq.

The Islamic Republic of Iran further requests that the Government of Iraq identify, arrest and prosecute the assailants, remedy the situation, incur the costs of damages inflicted and take effective preventative measures to ensure that such an unfortunate situation never occurs again in the future.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations kindly requests the inclusion of this incident in the report to be published in accordance with paragraph 13 of the aforementioned General Assembly Resolution.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York 10 October 2018

H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres
Secretary-General
United Nations New York

